

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/883,965

Applicant(s)

HONDA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Javid A Amini

2672

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/03/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 4-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☒ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Javid A Amini  
Examiner  
Art Unit: 2672

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-2, 4-19 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of all limitations in independent claim 1, see following limitations:

A multiplying device for multiplying the first frequency data stored in first histogram memory device for a coefficient a selection device for comparing the first frequency data output from multiplying device with the second frequency data stored in second histogram memory device and for outputting frequency data having a smaller value; and a compensating device for compensating the luminance level of input luminance signal based; on the outputted frequency data.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of all limitations in independent claim 4, see following limitations:

A minimum value selector for comparing the multiplied frequency distributed data and frequency distribution data output by the second histogram memory and for outputting smaller of the multiplied frequency distribution data and the frequency distribution data output by the second histogram memory; an accumulator circuit for accumulating frequency distribution data output by the minimum value selector in an accumulation histogram memory; and a compensation circuit for compensating luminance level of the digital signal based on the accumulated frequency distribution data.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of all limitations in independent claim 10, see following limitations:

Comparing the multiplied frequency distributed data and frequency distribution data output by the second histogram memory area; outputting smaller of the multiplied frequency distributed data and frequency distribution data output by the second histogram memory area; accumulating frequency distribution data in an accumulation histogram memory', and compensating luminance level of the digital video signal based on the accumulated frequency distribution data.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of all limitations in independent claim 15, see following limitations:

Means for multiplying frequency distribution data output by the first means for storing frequency distribution data by a frequency data coefficient; means for comparing the multiplied frequency distributed data and frequency distribution data output by the second means for storing frequency distribution data; means for outputting smaller of the multiplied frequency distributed data and frequency distribution data output by the second means for storing frequency distribution data; means for compensating luminance level of the digital video signal based on the accumulated frequency distribution data.

The new numbering of the claims:

Old number	New number	Type of claim
1	1	Independent
2	2	Dependent
4	3	Independent
5	4	Dependent
6	5	Dependent

7	6	Dependent
8	7	Dependent
9	8	Dependent
10	9	Independent
11	10	Dependent
12	11	Dependent
13	12	Dependent
14	13	Dependent
15	14	Independent
16	15	Dependent
17	16	Dependent
18	17	Dependent
19	18	Dependent

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A Amini whose telephone number is 571-272-7654. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on 571-272-7664. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
JEFFERY BRIER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Javid A Amini  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2672

Javid Amini